

## Winery Order Guidance: Specifications that Require Water Board Review or Approval

The General Waste Discharge Requirements for Winery Process Water ([Winery Order](#)) covers winery waste discharges to land for facilities producing over 10,000 and up to 15,000,000 gallons of process water per year and addresses region-specific conditions by including requirements that can be tailored to the individual facility upon regional water quality control board (regional water board) or State Water Resources Control Board (collectively referred to as Water Boards) review and approval. The below guidance information is summarized from the Winery Order, please directly refer to the Winery Order requirements in combination with this guidance related to Water Boards oversight in addition to existing Water Boards regulatory authorities. The Water Boards may:

- 1) Review and/or modify a proposed facility compliance schedule. *Winery Order Finding 58*
- 2) Approve treated wastewater from separate process water and domestic wastewater systems that are directed into the same subsurface disposal area with regional water board approval. *Winery Order, Section A.15.*
- 3) Approve a variance to the Winery Order setbacks based on site specific conditions or except as otherwise required (e.g., California Plumbing Code, county or local agency requirements, California Well Standards, part II, section 8). *Winery Order Section, D.1).j.*
- 4) Allow pond sizing smaller than the 100-year, 24-hour peak storm design standard. A smaller pond is required to meet a 25-year, 24-hour peak storm design standard at a minimum, based on a technical report submitted by the Discharger that describes how the process water system will be operated and managed under 100-year, 24-hour peak storm conditions (e.g., considering rainfall, pond water levels, site drainage, and site run on and runoff) to prevent process water spills. *Winery Order, Finding 28.a. and Sections D.2).b.i.b), D.2).c.i.b), and Attachment C Section 3.4.2*
- 5) Approve the use of an engineered alternative Tier 3 or 4 pond liner to meet the Winery Order hydraulic conductivity standard of  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  cm/s or less. *Winery Order, Section D.2).b.ii.d), D.2).c.ii.b).(1) and Attachment C Section 3.4.3*
- 6) Approve the Discharger demonstration of compliance with the pond capacity requirements submitted in the application for Winery Order coverage (includes the Notice of Intent, Technical Report, and supporting documentation). *Winery Order, Section D.2).d.i.*
- 7) Approve the Discharger demonstration of compliance with the pond hydraulic conductivity requirements submitted in the application for Winery Order coverage

(includes the Notice of Intent, Technical Report, and supporting documentation).  
*Winery Order, Section D.2).d.ii*

- 8) Approve a Discharger demonstration in the application for Winery Order coverage (includes the Notice of Intent, Technical Report, and supporting documentation) that the ponds comply with the groundwater monitoring exemption criteria. The Discharger intent to request a groundwater monitoring exemption must be clearly stated in the application for Winery Order coverage and the Discharger must request a temporary postponement of the groundwater monitoring requirements in the Monitoring and Reporting Program for Water Boards approval. *Winery Order, Section D.2).f.i.b)*
- 9) Approve the Discharger land application area groundwater monitoring exemption (Siting or Area-Wide). The Discharger intent to request a groundwater monitoring exemption must be clearly stated in the application for Winery Order coverage and the Discharger must request a temporary postponement of the groundwater monitoring requirements in the Monitoring and Reporting Program for Water Boards approval. *Winery Order, Section D.3).g*
- 10) Approve separately-treated waste streams from the process water system and the domestic wastewater system discharged to a combined subsurface system based upon the Discharger providing a technical justification to the Water Boards demonstrating that the subsurface disposal area (existing, new, expanded, upgraded, modified) is appropriately designed to receive the separately-treated waste streams from the process water system and the domestic wastewater system. *Winery Order, Section D.4)b.ii, Section D.4).b.ii.b), and Section G.1).e.iii*
- 11) Approve a smaller separation (minimum two feet) if compliance with the five-foot separation (the lowest points of the subsurface disposal area distribution and disposal systems, and their appurtenances siting requirement is at least five feet above the seasonal high water table) is infeasible and site-specific conditions indicate the smaller separation will not pose a threat to water quality; technical justification shall be provided by the Discharger. *Winery Order, Section D.4).e*
- 12) Approve a permitted flow in the Notice of Applicability (NOA) at less than the design flow but not greater. *Winery Order, Attachment C Section 2*
- 13) Authorize a Local Agency Oversight Program. *Winery Order, Attachment E Section A and B*
- 14) Issue and/or adopt the Monitoring and Reporting Program and any revisions. *Winery Order, Attachment G Page G-1 Paragraph 1*
- 15) Specify a required flow measurement method for the facility. *Winery Order, Attachment G Winery Effluent Monitoring, Footnote (1)*

#### [Winery Order](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/waste_discharge_requirements/docs/unofficial_adopted_winery_wdrs.pdf)

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